

[May Corn Marley]

[? ?? ?]

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Redfield Georgia B.

4/16/37 300 words

May Corn Marley [: Bill the Kid's Black Horse?]

"I am May, the second daughter of my father's marriage to Julia [McVicker?]. I was married to [?]. [?]. Marley March 4, 1906. We have a son and had a daughter who died two years ago.

"There has been much discussion about who set out the trees on [Roswell's?] Boswell's old land-marks landmark and place of interest-Lover's Lane-about five miles south-east at [Boswell?]. I know who set them out and who cared for them for many years, and it should be written now as one of the important subjects to be preserved in the records of Chaves County.

"Soon after my father settled an the old home site of the Corn family south of Lover's Lane - John Chisum came to him one day and said 'Corn I'll make you a proposition if you set out trees here along this ditch I'll get the trees. We need trees, lots of em on these hot dry [prarries?] prairies' . " My father said he would plant them and care for them so Chisum sent two Oxwagons to Alpine Texas in the [Davis?] Mountains and got the cottonwood and willow tress. My father set them out and he my sister Mary and the old darky we called "Nigger Dick" whom every one knew, would watch & trim tho'se trees and set the trimmings out. They grew fast and soon made the beautiful lane which has been a favorite

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drive for young people, especially lovers, for nearly sixty years. Oregon Bell set some of the trees out on his land on the north side of the land[/ . C18-6/15/41- [N. Mix.?)

“J.P. White told me just before he died that every time he started to drive cattle thro'ugh [?] that lane my father would say- ‘ be sure to keep the cattle from destroying any of tho'se trees White ’” . Mr White said he would always [promide?] promise to watch them and all of the tho'usands of cattle he drove thro'ugh the lane, not one ever touched tho'se trees that my father and John Chisum loved and tended so carefully.

When my father and family came to New Mexico they brought three or four hundred head of cattle and a hundred head of horses-He loved horses. He raised the horse that Billy the Kid made his escape on, when he broke jail in Lincoln after killing Brady. It was a black horse. Pat Garrett bought him from my father and named him “black [Mart?]” after my father.

My father loved his Eden Valley Ranch home, where he died and is buried.

All of his sons like ranch life and have ranch homes scattered overall south-east New Mexico.

I am like all the rest of the Corn children, I prefer my ranch home and only come for short visits to this nice home you see here in [Boswell?].

Given In Interview 4/16/37

By May Corn Marley- (daughter of “Mart” V. Corn)

102 N. Kentucky Ave. [Boswell?]

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